

Dr. Kimberly Shackelford has a well-established history of direct practice, leadership, program development, community engagement and research. As a previous professor of social work at the University of Mississippi, and as a current Associate Professor at Auburn University, she brings over 38 years of social work experience to the classroom. Dr. Shackelford has published research in the areas of secondary traumatic stress, child welfare supervision, child welfare, working with soldiers, veterans and their families, and social justice. She has co-authored two books, Secondary Traumatic Stress and the Child Welfare Professional and The Costs of Courage: Combat Stress, Warriors, and Family Survival. Dr. Shackelford draws from her experience as a front-line child protection/foster care social worker and supervisor plus her experiences as a child welfare trainer, training director and curriculum developer. She has served as Deputy Director of Family and Children's Services in Mississippi. She has been awarded funding for child welfare supervision research and professional development, and to create the Mississippi Child Welfare Training Academy. Dr. Shackelford recently developed Family Advocacy training for advocates and supervisors in Child Advocacy Centers in Mississippi and the manuals are being used across the United States. Prior to joining Auburn University faculty, she served as the leader in a current Child Advocacy Studies movement in Mississippi to create interdisciplinary higher education courses and certificate programs that include experiential learning. She has worked and studied in many states, Canada, Belize, and South Africa, continuously learning how to improve services, and our skills in working with children and families.